

**DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
LEPC REPORT  
(Drafted 12 June 2006)**

**Madison County Disaster & Emergency Plan:** The main body of the Disaster & Emergency Plan, along with the three new annexes (Hazmat, WMD/Terrorism and Evacuation/Quarantine) which have been approved by the County Board of Commissioners to date has been given to the Town Councils of the four incorporated towns for their consideration and adoption. Meanwhile, the county Public Information Plan (another annex to the Disaster and Emergency Plan) is being drafted and is currently about half done, and should be ready for LEPC review prior to the July meeting.

**Public Safety Communications:** The project to install the three new repeaters outlined in previous reports to the LEPC (Table Mountain, Lone Peak and Reynolds Pass) continues to progress. In addition to the actual repeaters themselves, there will need to be some upgrades to Dispatch and the primary transmitter in order to accommodate them. Bridger Communications is assisting in designing and exploring alternatives in order to come up with the most cost effective implementation we can. The Board of Commissioners has tentatively included funds in the next fiscal year's budget which will greatly alleviate the funding shortfall reported last month. At this point we are hoping to have the first of the repeaters (Table Mountain) installed late this month, working in conjunction with Beaverhead County which has been very helpful throughout this effort.

**Big Sky:** As reported last month, if we are successful in achieving radio communications into the Madison County portion of Big Sky, we will have greatly increased our flexibility in determining how best to provide public safety services to that area. For this and a number of other reasons, the time is now propitious to review our whole approach to all aspects of public safety in Big Sky. I have begun gathering information and determining problems and opportunities and will meet with representatives of Big Sky Resort/Boyne, Moonlight Basin and Yellowstone Club next week to discuss the matter. Although it is not currently on the LEPC agenda, I would very much like to hear comments or suggestions from the LEPC as a whole and from individual representatives of fire, law enforcement, EMS, SAR, etc as well as we begin to explore what arrangements for public safety in that area would be in the best interests of county government and the residents of Madison County.

**NIMS:** The letter from the LEPC to the Commissioners outlining the results of your assessment of the county's NIMS compliance was presented to the Board of Commissioners on 12 June. They accepted the letter and will be looking forward to an update in September.

**ICS/NIMS Training:** Steve DiGiovanna did an excellent job of putting together the combined ICS 200/IS 700 training held in Alder on 3 June. Ennis FCCLA provided a working lunch together with morning and afternoon snacks. Sixteen students attended, representing a broad spectrum of interests and areas. Steve has also indicated that he would be willing to conduct future ICS and/or NIMS training for the VFDs, SAR teams or other organizations in need of training at times and places which might be best for all concerned. Remember, ICS integration and utilization was the most significant single deficiency the LEPC found in county NIMS compliance. Everyone engaged in public safety response or emergency planning (as all members of the LEPC and most persons involved in government are) is required by federal mandate to complete three courses before the end of September: IC 200 (Basic ICS), IS 700 (Introduction to NIMS) and IS 800 (Introduction to the National Response Plan). The latter two are available on-line and are not too time consuming, although the NRP course can be a little heavy going. We need to push this in our organizations.

**False Alarm Ordinance:** The LEPC proposal regarding fees for false alarms initiated by automatic alarm systems was presented to the Board of Commissioners on 12 June. In general, they seemed favorably disposed toward the proposal. I have been asked to come up with appropriate language for such an ordinance which could then be entered into the county enactment process. Any further input from the LEPC members would be appreciated.

**SubDivision Review:** Joe Husar will have much more to offer at the meeting, but I think it would be appropriate to bring to everyone's attention that we are considering the possibility of altering the way in which public safety review of proposed subdivisions is to be offset by the developers involved. We are also considering the possibility of offering some recommendations to the Commissioners for some alterations to the existing subdivision standards related to public safety. It would be good if you gave this a little thought before coming to the meeting.